



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2903.0.55.002 - How Australia Takes a Census, 2006

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 04/08/2006 First Issue

MEDIA RELEASE

August 4, 2006

Embargoed: 11:30 AM (AEST)

NSW105/2006

Census Collectors knocking on Armidale's doors

With just a few days remaining until Census Night on Tuesday 8 August, Collectors are out and about delivering forms to and from every household across the nation.

Collectors are critical to an effective Census count according to NSW Director of Census, Sue Phillips, who is in Armidale to support the efforts of local Census field staff.

Ms Phillips is meeting with the local Census District Manager Jack Rapley and local Collectors to discuss progress on the mammoth task that is the 2006 Census.

"Census Collectors are the statistical foot soldiers in this national operation," said Ms Phillips.

"Our Collectors are knocking on every household door – you can spot them by their bright yellow bags and all will carry photo identification. People should feel free to ask Collectors any questions about the Census they may have.

"The Census helps to paint a picture of your community. It provides information on many important topics like the age profile of the population, your heritage, your income, education levels and the industries in which people are working.

"It is vital that everyone participates so that your community has an accurate count from which to plan the services that are required" said Ms Phillips.

This year, people will have the option of completing their Census form electronically via the Internet (called eCensus).

"Everyone will still have a paper Census form delivered to their household, but they will also receive additional information about how to complete their Census forms electronically if they wish to do so," said Ms Phillips.

All Census information is kept confidential by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

"No Census information is released by the ABS which can allow your personal information to be identified" said Ms Phillips.

The Census is held every five years and provides comprehensive information about the characteristics of the population.

Collectors will be delivering Census forms right up to Census day. Collectors will return to collect Census forms between 9 and 28 August.

People who need assistance with the Census can ask their Collector or call the Census Inquiry Line on **1300 362 883**.

(Photographs available on request)

This page last updated 17 May 2011

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